# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JIM GIBBONS GOVERNOR CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO ATTORNEY GENERAL ROSS MILLER SECRETARY OF STATE

### STATE OF NEVADA



# DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

P.O. Box 7011 Carson City, NV 89702 (775) 887-3216 Fax: (775) 887-3138

January 15, 2008

The Honorable Jim Gibbons Governor of Nevada Capitol Building Carson City, Nevada 89710

Dear Governor Gibbons:

I have given a lot of thought to the role of the Board as opposed to that of the Director. For all of recent history, if not longer, the Board has not been involved in the budget process. I suspect that is for multiple reasons. The Board not wanting to assume the liability of budget decisions being the lesser of the two primary ones. I believe the requirement for notification and public hearings, added to the IFC process and the Department of Administration review and approval would make this a very non-responsive, excessively long process and the major reason the past Boards have not involved themselves in budgetary decisions.

There are currently approximately 250 administrative regulations and nearly 150 medical directives. These regulations have delegated significant authority for the daily management of the Department to the Director. Again, given the public notification requirements as well as the schedules of the Board, timely response to decisions would be difficult if not impossible and would jeopardize staff and inmate safety, the ability to operate efficiently and place the Board in the middle of the numerous law suits the Department regularly responds to.

Therefore, it would be my recommendation that the Board continues to limit its involvement in the management of the Department to the review and approval of policy recommendation that are made through the Administrative Regulations, a review of general operations through status reports from the Director, and endorsement of changes proposed by long range planning provided by the

The Honorable Jim Gibbons Page 2 of 2 January 15, 2008

Department for the Board's review. I believe this can be accomplished through no more than quarterly and probably semi-annual meetings.

If I can provide any additional input to the Board, I would be pleased to do so.

Very truly yours,

Howard Skolnik

Director

HS:scc



## DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

P.O. Box 7011 Carson City, NV 89702 (775) 887-3216 Fax: (775) 887-3138

January 15, 2008

The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto Attorney General State of Nevada 100 North Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Madam Attorney General:

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GOVERNOR
CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO
ATTORNEY GENERAL
ROSS MILLER
SECRETARY OF STATE



STATE OF NEVADA

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P.O. Box 7011 Carson City, NV 89702 (775) 887-3216 Fax: (775) 887-3138

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The Honorable Ross Miller Secretary of State Capitol Building Carson City, Nevada 89710

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